

Lodi News-Sentinel

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Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Stockton, presented official copies of a statement he read about slain Galt Police Officer Kevin Tonn to Tonn's family and the police department Monday.

McNerney read the following into the Congressional Record on Jan. 23, 2013:

"It is with great sadness that I make this statement today to recognize the life and service of Police Officer Kevin Tonn. Officer Tonn served in the Galt Police Department for three years, protecting a community in California that I am honored to represent. Tragically, Officer Tonn was killed in the line of duty this past week while pursuing a crime suspect.

"Officer Tonn was the perfect example of a model citizen. As a teenager who grew up in Roseville, Calif., he joined the Roseville Police Explorers; after he graduated high school, he joined the U.S. Army as a military police officer. Officer Tonn also served as a firefighter in New York before returning to California to join the Sacramento Sheriff's Academy.

"In 2009, he was sworn into the Galt police force as a K-9 officer. Kevin Tonn's character and selfless commitment to his fellow citizens is evidenced by his years of service, working in multiple capacities and uniforms."

Anyone who encountered Officer Tonn was impressed by his integrity, his ability to use humor to diffuse difficult situations and his dedication to serving the community, especially our younger citizens. The Galt community was fortunate to have such a dedicated individual, and his memory will live on.

"It is never easy to lose a loved one, but my thoughts and prayers are with his family and the community at this difficult time, as I know the nation has lost a true American hero."